

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Region III - 6th & Walnut Sts.  
Philadelphia, Pa. 19106

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SUBJECT: Briefing Memorandum

DATE: May 18, 1977

FROM: Albert Montague, Director *al*  
Office of Research and Development (3RDOO)

TO: A. R. Morris  
Acting Regional Administrator (3RA00)

Document Description:

Letters to Senators Biden and Roth, with copies to Mr. Bailey Guard of the Senate Public Works Committee staff, regarding the well water quality status of wells in the vicinity of the Llangollen landfill site.

Reason:

To fulfill the request from the Senators' offices after they were notified about our intentions last January, i.e. letter to Governor Tribbitt.

Expected Accomplishment:

It will serve to keep them formally posted on the present state of affairs and what we are doing about assuring good quality water from these facilities.

Alternative Option:

Telephone communication was carried out with appropriate staff members, but the gravity of the matter requires formal written communication.

Coordination:

Coordination with state and local officials has been carried out under the direction of Jim Manwaring's group. Coordination with Cincinnati has been done through this office; Don Sanning of the Solid Waste staff is acting as project officer in our behalf with the University of Illinois people. Larry Miller was the focal point for S&A.

Repercussions:

1. At the worst, severe contamination of industrial and public water supplies could be discovered. We feel this has been ruled out by the two efforts to date, although analytical work has been done on only the water supply wells.

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Repercussions: (continued)

2. Regardless of this, politicians at both the state and federal level could raise questions: (a) how was the situation handled, and why? (b) State and local officials may feel slighted and might seek political retribution.

3. Questions regarding further assurances could be required, and the University of Illinois researchers, in anticipation of this, are carrying out analytical work over and above our request to cover this contingency.

Public Relations Considerations:

Resolved.

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